



Read EnSight 5 Data

## INTRODUCTION

The current release of EnSight still supports the data file format known as “EnSight 5” which was originally released with version 5.0. The EnSight 5 format supports unstructured (finite-element) geometry with scalar or vector nodal variable data. Both geometry and variables can change over time. The format provides for both binary and ASCII versions.

EnSight 5 datasets consist of the following files. Note that the entry in the File Name column is only a suggestion – it typically does not matter to EnSight what the actual file name is.

File	File Name	Notes	Required?
Geometry	file.geo	Contains coordinates and element connectivity.	yes
Result	file.res	Provides additional information about the dataset (such as time information) as well as pointers to the files actually containing the variable data.	optional
Scalar Variable	file.scl	Each scalar variable file contains one value per node defined in the geometry file.	optional
Vector Variable	file.vec	Each vector variable file contains three values per node defined in the geometry file.	optional
Measured	*	Measured results, geometry, and variable files	optional

Note that the EnSight 5 format also supports measured or discrete data. See [How To Display Discrete or Experimental Data](#) for more information.

Reading data into EnSight is a two-step process. First, the appropriate files are selected. This step is largely the same regardless of the format of the data being read. Second, parts are constructed using an interface that is specific to the applicable data format. This article covers the second step for EnSight 5 data. See [How To Read Data](#) for more information on selecting the appropriate files.

## BASIC OPERATION

After you have specified the appropriate data files with the File Selector (opened with File > Data (Reader)... as discussed in [How To Read Data](#)) and clicked Okay, the Data Part Loader (EnSight 5) dialog will open. You use this dialog to build the desired parts. To build parts for EnSight 5 format data:

1. If the Data Part Loader dialog is not open, select **File > Data (Part Loader)...**

The available parts are listed in the Parts List. You can build them all by clicking Load All at the bottom. Alternately, you can build them one by one and choose a different visual representation and part name for each. To build selected parts:

2. Select the desired part(s) in the Parts list.

3. Choose the desired initial **Visual Representation** for the select part(s).

4. If desired, enter a name for the part (to use in the Main Parts list). The default name is the same as the entry in the Parts List.

5. Click Load Selected.

6. Click Close when done.





## OTHER NOTES

You can reopen the Data Part Loader dialog at any time to build additional parts. Simply select File > Data Part Loader)... and build the desired parts as described above.

## SEE ALSO

[How To Read Data](#)

User Manual: [EnSight5 Reader](#)